

"You're far too trusting, my dear. But don't worry, we will deal with your rebel friends later. First, we will deliver a good blast here in

THE



BRUTUS

BULLETIN

*Et tu, Brute*

The BRUTUS BULLETIN is a newsletter of postal DIPLOMACY brought to you every few weeks by John Michalski, Rt 10, Box 526-Q, Moore, OK 73165. That's pronounced "Mih-HOLL-skee". Diplomacy is a game invented by Alan Calhmer and copyrighted by the Avalon Hill Co, Baltimore. There are no openings, but Jack Frost may have one or two spots in his next 10-day-deadline game if it isn't starting in this issue. Subs are available for \$4/12, but if you'd rather not, that's fine. I'm getting too many people on the rolls as it is, and after upping my print run twice, I really don't want to again.

LAST ISSUE may have been a strange looking one to some of you. I had to really dig into my postage reserves, with the result that some of you got envelopes that had both a printed stamp, a metered adjustment, and an additional licked stamp beside THEM! Keeps those mail sorters on their toes. With new subbers, I was only 1 issue short. Thanks to all of you who commented (nicely) on that absurd sized #55-56. I won't burden you with one like that again if I can help it, short of BRUTUS BULLETIN #100. Or maybe I'll pull a Rod Walker and fold with issue 99?

ENVOY was mentioned last issue in ZINES RECEIVED, but no stats or publishing info was given. My mistake! It is put out by Roy Hendricks, P O Box 34277, Richmond, VA 23234. Subs are 12/\$5.

One side effect of the FEUD between Linsey et.al. and Curtis Gibson is that Brux has challenged Curtis to a two-man game. I would agree to carry it here for the record, and would go with just a fee for postage for the company till. I'd be glad to see it myself!

CLAUDINE got herself a free trip to the Virgin Islands late in January, which led to her return with the typical souvenirs you might expect: you know, T-shirts that say things like "IT'S GREAT TO BE ON A VIRGIN island,"

plus tax-free booze (unfortunately, most of it local rum), a grass mat, etc. Also, a strained or sprained back that kept her in the hospital a week later. Well, you can easily imagine the jokes that local characters (I won't even mention Shaffer's name) made over THAT coincidence! A nice getaway, but too expensive. She says everyone there moves in slow motion, hamburgers are \$3.50, the hotel room was \$74 a night for each of the 3 sharing the room, they drive on the left side of the road, stop signs mean "sound your horn and proceed", and no one hurries for anything. Well, at the prices they charge, why rush? She should have fit right in, being on the federal payroll, but sitting still isn't her style, even after some years' experience.

THIS ISSUE should be nothing special, or at least that is my fervent hope. Specials are tiring; time for a Millard Fillmore issue, one that does the job and keeps its mouth shut. But you'll be hearing from Berch and Gibson anyway. And don't overlook Jack Frost's new game; my own 80D is getting off to a good hairy start, but Jack's 80C is hard to beat! And with 10 day deadlines, you should be able to follow a good bit of it without much trouble. (If it works out right, Jack may have more games in this issue than I do)

Late Feb., 1980

JOHN'S NOTES

This is a little news & chatter feature that I have lately not titled, as the entire cover has just flowed from colophon into Notes and general bull, but Brux Linsey has so objected to my heading that I will break down and run it here again this time around.

The other side of this stated that both Berch and Gibson are in this issue. Well, that had been my intent, but now I can't seem to find the Gibson letter that I had intended to run. Curtis has about 14 pages of material here, were I to print it all, but it is primarily concerned with his battle with Bruce Linsey, Konrad Baumeister, and assorted others which has been pretty much hashed to death. The letter with his commentary about how his tenemnet is run there in NYC is not to be found now; darn. Chances are good then that, cover note aside, there won't be any Gibson this issue after all. I may even have to postpone a really outrageous Campaign Statement by Bill LaFosse, candidate for President of the United States, that I will definitely do my damdest to get into this issue if I can. If so, I apologize to those of you who might be offended by Bill's, er, style. Like Gibson, he speaks his mind and pulls no punches. If I don't make it this time, well, you certainly have something to look forward to in #58. (Remember, the BRUTUS BULLETIN endorses Bill all the way. Recently I beleive Michael Mills, EMHAIN MACHA, has also joined our bandwagon, and another major publisher has hinted he too may endorse Bill soon. We're on our way!

On another matter, the following is printed at the request of John Kelley, publisher of THE BEHOLDER, regarding an earlier letter of his that appeared here in BB:

"I retract my statement that John Boardman is a Nazi. I do not know whether he is or not, and could care less. I don't need to say what I think about him anyway--he and the reader can decide for themselves."

Also, see David Perlmutter's letter inside to Konrad Baumeister, and a further exchange in the latest EGGNOG (11416 Parkview Lane, Hales Corners, WI 53130) Michael Mills has reported that RICHARD KOVALCKIK has decided to drop "Bernie Oaklyn" as a guest GM in his zine TETRACUSPID. Tretick being Tretick, however, he no sooner retreats from one front than he reappears on another. You may recall that "Bernie Oaklyn" Tretick is signed up for Bill LaFosse's Game #7 now filling in his TORONTO TELEGRAM; well, the latest TT just received also shows "someone" by the name of "Edwards" as another recent entrant. Anyone ever hear of HIM before somewhere, hmmmmmm?

HOUSERULEES ADDITION: The following is added effective at once to the houserules. It isn't yet applicable in any particular game, but I would like to spell this out before any situation would arise in which it would apply.

"If a draw or concession is voted on a fall season in which one player takes 18, the board victory will take precedence over the draw or concession."

JERRY JONES, publisher of DIPLOMACY WORLD, had this announcement in the latest DW in case you don't get it for some reason: DipCon XIII will be held in conjunction with MichiCon 9 in Ann Arbor (Michigan) this year, the weekend of June 6-8. For details, write "M.D.G., MichiCon 9/DipCon XIII, P O Box 787, Troy, MI 48099"

My thanks to those of you who have written to offer your moral support and statements that I somehow "fight on" with various people, particularly John Boardman. However, I feel that the case he cited was a legitimate one, and my apology and change in printing policy will stand just as I have stated them.

★ RETRACTION  
NOTICE ★

# 80-D

FEB 6 1980

HOORAY! BB TRADITIONS MAINTAINED!  
FRANCE, ITALY, SQUARE OFF AGAINST ALL THEIR  
NEIGHBORS. ENGLAND, GERMANY LEANING VS RUSSIA.  
TURKS TOO GO STRAIGHT NORTH, WHILE RUSSIA LUNGES  
AT AUSTRIA! CHECK THAT AUSTRIAN OPENING!

formerly Brutus #11

## SPRING, 1901:

AUSTRIA (Petrie): F Tri-ALB; A Vie-TYO; A Bud-TRI  
ENGLAND (Mitchell): F Edi-NWG; F Lon-NTH; A Lvp-EDI  
FRANCE (Johnson): F Bre-ENG; A Par-BUG; A MAR-Pie  
GERMANY (Cummings): F Kie-DEN; A Ber-KIE; A Mun-RUH  
ITALY (Grabar): A VEN-Pie; A ROM-Ven; F Nap-ION  
RUSSIA (Chatfield): A War-GAL; A Mos-UKR; F StPsc-GOB; F SEV H  
TURKEY (Becker): A Con-BUL; F Ank-BLA; A Smy-ARM

Ah, what an interesting start. From the level of activity, I can tell there is a lot going on out there; no doubt there will be a lot MORE this season! Speaking of which, we really get at it now. FALL, 1901, will be due with my mail received at work WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1980. Should be a lot of fun to see!

COAs: Dave Grabar, Italy, to 1583 Truman, Chowchilla, CA 93610  
Mark Cummings, Germany, to 986 N Court #1, Rockford, IL 61103

## Press:

(No dateline): France has moved its forces into a defensive posture on its borders. They will remain there until we have established definite treaties concerning the border areas and these times of uncertainty are behind us.

To Austria: I think you owe more than that, don't you?

Somewhere in the Channel: You should have asked me, I might have told ya. Yuk, yuk.

Postcard from Tyrolia: Ah, the Alps. Such fine skiing .I didn't know how I was going to get the boat up here, but it was worth it. —The Arch Dupe Ferd.

Gulf of Bothnia: If anybody blocks me out of Sweden this year, I'll probably do something crazy.

MOSCOW: If Black is White its all over.

RUSSIA to LINSEY: General Galacov is asking for you.

To the NMRs: Your letters were interesting too.

To Austria: I have the poop on the pope that you requested. Its worth twice as much as you offered. Watch him, he's been frustrated in his last 9 games by being eliminated before '04.

G.E.:Shocking!

I.G.A.: Food for thought

I.R.A.: Revolting!

T.G.I.F.: I'll drink to that!

Ank-Lon: Let's see if we can pick up where we left off in 79CK, if you last long enough I'll be happy to take your last center.

FEB 6 1980

MADMAN HELPS PAPAL CAUSE, PAYS A PRICE.  
LOTS OF WILD HAPPENINGS—GM HAVING A GOOD LAUGH!

FALL, 1906: Germany (Madman): F BRE-Gas; A PIC-Par; A TYO S ITALIAN A Ven-Tri

1906: ~~W~~/Bre Par 2 Remove 1

Per call to player whose orders  
were selected, F BRE is removed

Winter, 1906, and SPRING, 1907 orders are due with my mail received at home Ash Wednesday, according to my calander; FEBRUARY 20, 1980. There is a call for a change from 14-day deadlines to 10-day deadlines. This would require a UNANIMOUS vote of all players still out there, I'm afraid.

COA : Dave Grabar, Italy, to 1583 Truman, Chowchilla, CA 93610

Press:

ROME: That is a shame that Turkey made me write this press. I now know that all this dirty press is coming from Turkey, I know Turkey has an A-Apu, F-EasMed, F-Adr, F-Aeg. I know Austria is also on the ropes. Turkey is a flat out liar.

FEB 7 1980

AUSTRIAN VACATION AFFECTS COORDINATION. JOHN BULL  
STANDS ALONE, BUT STILL STANDS.

The Second 10-Day-Deadline Game

Summer, 1908: France NRR! F Mid-OTB; Austrian A Bur r PAR

FALL, 1908:

AUSTRIA (Henthorn): A GAS S A Par-Bre; A PAR-Bre; A MAR S A Mun-Bur; A MUN-Bur; A Tyo-PIE; A Tri-TYO; A BOH-Mun; A PRU S TURK A Ber/OTM; F WES S TURK F Mid/OTM

ENGLAND (Hayner): A NWY C F Por-Ser/NSO-NSU-imp; F SWE S A Nwy; F BAL S F Den-Ki; F Den-KIE; A HOL S A Ruh; A RUH S (Fr) A Bur; F Nth-BEL; F ENG S FRENCH F Bre; F Iri-NAO

FRANCE (Kelley): NMR! A BUR, PIC H; F BRE, SPA sc H

TURKEY (Becker): F Mid-POR; F NAF S AUSTRIAN F Wes-Mid/NSO; F GLYO-Spasc; F TYN-GLyo; F TUN-Wes; A BER-Kie; A LVN-Lvp/imp.; A MOS-Lon/imp.; F BLA-Edi/imp.

1908:

A: Home Ser Gre Mun War Ven <del>Ty</del> MAR PAR	10	Build one
E: Home Nwy Swe Bel Hol Den Kie	9	even
F: Bre <del>Par</del> <del>Mar</del> Spa <del>Por</del>	2	1 ann., remove 2
T: Home Rum Bul, Sev, Mos, StP, Nap, Rom, Ber, TUN POR	13 34	Build 2

Winter, 1908 adjustments and SPRING, 1909 moves will be due with my mail received here TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1980. The delay is due to the postal holiday that Monday. Note that while moves may not be conditional on a player at deadline, they CAN be conditional on removals. You are entitled to know, for instance, whether the French units were removed by order, or by me via NRR. Of course John could trick you by sending no removals, only spring orders, but you can make them conditional on regular given removals vs NRR removals. Per rules, an NRR would remove both fleets. Press follows.

ANK-LON: Be mine, Valentine!

79CK

IT SHOULDN'T BE LONG NOW

Winter, 1908: Austria builds A BUO; France removes F SPAsc, F BRE;  
Turkey builds F CON, F SMY

SPRING, 1909

- AUSTRIA (Henthorn): A BUO H; A GAS S A Par-Bre; A Par-BRE; A MUN S A Mar-Bur; A MAR-Bur; A PIE-Mar; A TYO S A Mun; A Boh-SIL; A PRU S TURKISH A Ber; F Wes-Mid
- ENGLAND (Hayner): F NAO-Mid; F ENG S F Nat-Mid; F BEL S A Nwy/imp.; A RUH S (French) A Bur; A HOL C (Turkish) F Naf-Syr/imp., NSO; F BAL S F Kie-Ber; F KIE-Ber; A NWY C the sultan to the home for hopelessly senile gay pigeons (H)/NSO; F SWE S A Nwy
- FRANCE (Kelley): A BUR raises its middle finger defiantly while S A Pic-Par; A Pic-PAR
- TURKEY (Becker): F NAF+FPOR S AUSTRIAN FW-Mid; F Tun-WES; F GLyo-SPAsc; F Tyn-GLYO; F Con-SMY; F Smy-EAS; A BER S AUSTRIAN A Mun; A FIN-Nwy; A STP S A Fin-Nwy; A LVN S A MOS misordered, H; F Bla-RUM

[ THERE IS a call for an A-T draw. NVR will count as a YES. FALL, 1909 will be due with my mail received at work here FRIDAY, February 29, 1980. Press follows.

Ank-All : Note address correction: Bill Pecker, 810 Tomfool Lane, Foulamazoo, MI 46006.

LON: T&A, T&A, all I get is T&A.

CON: Lucky man.

LON: If the PM wants to "die like a Frenchman", why not send him to Paris? The people want peace! Please surrender while Great Britain still has strength and honor... unlike the pitiful French!

LON-CONSTANTINOPLE: That picture you sent with the valentine card of your dilated anal sphincter was classless, crass, and gross. What was that underneath it? It looked like two raisins and a toothpick.

PARIS-ALL: Will, if I must go down, I do so with my middle finger held aloft proudly, uttering that immortal battle cry also used by General McAuliffe when asked to surrender at the Battle of the Bulge: "Fuuuuuuuck youuuuuuu!!!"

PARIS: I must be getting old. Can't even mail the ~~fuckin'~~ orders in on time!

LONDON: The Prime Minister has asked to replace the present press secretary with a "more conservative gentlemen intellectual".

((I wonder why?))

((Last season, the Turkish orders A STP S A Fin, A FIN H were inadvertently left out. No harm done, no one noticed or mentioned it. Such an exciting front up there..))

CURTIS GIBSON

A1, 176 Lexington, New York, NY 10016

...one thing from BB 52-53 I must comment on. This continued discussion of Kelly-Verheiden alliance habits is one of the best demonstrations of perverted minds we'll ever see. Possibly equal to the absurdity of trying to outlaw my writing to players about their games. As though ANYONE in the hobby isn't free to ally with anyone else as often as opportune? These gripers sound as though it was questionable ethics!

Admittedly they risk missing the thrills of stabbing which are the breath of life for these pitiful upset punks. Admittedly their alliances endanger the ambitions of many a compulsive thug (in Dippy clothing). Yes, the sublime cause of perfidity may end in shambles, even oblivion, if their example really catches on and pervades the hobby with "loyalty ever". I even see signs that ((another player)) is in danger of being swallowed up in their fraternity now. Who'll be next? Tragedy looms over the hobby like a thunderhead!(I'd love to be).

And now, re Konrad Baumeister's letter in VOICE OF DOOM #4 (current): it's all lies, except that his claim I wrote 6 men in one game is correct, and so what? It was a 19-man variant and has no bearing on my statement that I've written only 2 or 3 letters a year to players in other games than mine, as I was speaking of Diplomacy proper. But what is serious is that he offers photostat proofs of his lies against me. We should all (who sub to VD) tell ed. Linsey that since he has published the charge against Gibson AND the claim of proofs, he MUST now demand that K.B. send him said proofs, and had better warn, publicly, that UNTIL he does so he will get NO MORE of his stuff into VOICE OF DOOM's pages! Linsey can't pretend he fairly gives me space to reply to KB when there is no possible reply to lies that include offer of proof EXCEPT demand of that proof!

Anyone who doesn't want to be ashamed of himself later, write Linsey, pro-CLG.

PS Maybe Berch didn't read my article, the Four Kinds of Dip Players, but his remarks re Verheiden & Kelly mean that at best he couldn't comprehend it. If Berch couldn't, many others couldn't. So now let me talk down to you boys, very plain and simple.

There are a number of qualities an experienced Dipster seeks in ally preference. Some would alter my following order of priorities, and of course personalities are often a major factor, but mainly they value an ally for: sincerity or loyalty, competence & cooperativeness, reliability & persistence, and a reasonable degree of unselfishness in sharing gains. Maybe one should add, harmony in politics, hobby or national or both, but that could come under the general area of 'personalities', or 'extra-gaming considerations'.

Now look again at these four bases for ally preference, and think them over carefully. They are all factors of merit, not the whimsy that novices base alliance on. And this is all aside from factors of old scores to settle, which may take precedence, and needs to if dealing with unrepentant rascals. And Kelly & Verheiden would find only 10% of players strong in more than 2 of the 4 areas, and only 1% strong in all 4. So when they encounter each other in a game, wouldn't they be fools not to ally? (Both strong in all 4)

Furthermore, altho Kelly is too loaded (60-70 games usually) to be a keen cooperator in the normal sense, most players don't realize and don't enjoy allinace with him as he seldom writes. So, when he finds himself with E.V., who understands perfectly and is able to suggest the plans that he knows Ron would approve of (usually), there's another reason why he'd be a fool not to welcome the chance to get a GOOD ally! Berch knows all this, so I can't see why he made such stupid comments. Maybe just an urge to court popularity when he feels an anti-true-blue wind is prevailing. He ought to be ashamed. If he was an average, half-informed Dippie, it would be excusable.

Well, the above wasn't really meant for you at all, John, just for any readers dumb enough to like what Berch had said, or duped by the 1977,8 &9 wave of silly anti-cross-gaming opinions that have been fouling up the hobby. The only thing wrong wiht cross gaming is that if your ally isn't a true blue, he'll likely stab you ~~somehow~~ sooner or later, and in all your games if possible. That is why loyalty is No 1 of all 4 bases for ally preference, and then enough competence so both allies can agree on aims & plans.

FEB 7 1980

79IZ

Winter, 1902: Russian F Swe r GOB; Austria removes F Gre;  
 England builds F LVP; Germany builds A BER, A KIE;  
 Italy builds F NAP

SPRING, 1903

AUSTRIA (~~Lee~~ Guajardo): A TRI & A BUD S A Tyo-Vie; A Tyo-VIE; A SER-Rum  
 ENGLAND (Osuch): FLvp-IRI; F ENG-Mid; F NTH-Eng; A BRE-Pic; F NWY H  
 FRANCE (Fuchs): A PIC-Bre; F MID & A PAR S A Pic-Bre; A Spa-GAS;  
English A Bre-Hell/imp.  
 GERMANY (Howe): A Ber-PRU; A KIE-Lvn; F BAL C A Kie-Lvn; A Swe-FIN;  
 A MUN S A Ruh-Bur; A Ruh-BUR; F BEL S ENGLISH A Bre-Pic  
 ITALY (Palter): F Nap-ION; F Ion-ADR; A PIE S A Ven; A VEN S (Russ?)A Vie/imp.  
 RUSSIA (Hayner): A Ukr-WAR; A RUM-Ser; A Vie-Bud/d/r Boh, Gal, Otb; F SEV S  
A Rum/OTM; A STP-Lvn; F GOB-Lvn  
 TURKEY (McCarty): F AEG S A Bul-Gre; A Bul-GRE; F BLA C A Arm-Bul; A Arm-BUL

Last time Mr. Lee did send out orders with 3 days to spare; unfortunately, it took them 6 days to arrive. This time I received a set of orders for a game of his in Lipscomb's ASSORTED GARBAGE (forwarded), but no orders for this. Therefore, with this second NMR, Arturo Guajardo takes over.

FALL, 1903, will be due here SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1980. Press follows.

## 79IZ press

BUDAPEST to ROME: OK, so all I wanted to do was move the Vatican to Galacia where a good Polish pope would feel more at home. You don't buy the idea....Fine, but you had better start looking beyond our little squabble or St Peter's may soon be a mosque.

Lon-St Pete: Did you ever hear of Roland, the Headless Thompson Gunner?

Par-Lon: Get the hell out of my sandbox.

Tun-Smy: Your attitude noted—pity—we could have worked together but...

Bre-Lon: Send lawyers, guns, and money dad, get me out of this!

Par-Ger: Look out for the landmines in Burgundy. Better stay with the Ruhr-Munich mutual support society.

Tun-Barcelona: Please note the nonattack on Mar.

Tun-Vienna: Please note the nonattack on Tyo last turn—pity you don't answer your mail.

Par-Italy: Really enjoy all of your letters.

Tunis-Essen: Small power seeking larger (or any) ally. Write Box 156, Cedarhurst, NY 11516

Con-Lon: What the hell is going on down here?!

Berlin: The German press secretary announced today that Kaiser Howe's visit to the hospital was "nothing to be alarmed about".--According to informed sources, the Kaiser was so pleased with the latest international developments that he performed auto-fellatio 140 times in the past 2 weeks, and needs to be put on a lower protein diet.

CON: The commander of the Aegean Fleet has been indicted for criminal incompetence. He will be given a fair trial and then executed in a most ingenious manner.

Con-Rom: Unflattering limerick courtesy of somebody else. Turkish literary talent sadly absent in this obvious forgery. By the way—where are you? Your letter returned to me!

78 Tid

MAD ITALIANS KEEP AUSTRIA IN IT ANOTHER YEAR.  
E-F ALLIANCE GAINS, MADMEN DOWN TO 1 UNIT!

FEB 13 1980

The Adopted Game

Summer, 1904: Austrian A Bud r VIE

FALL, 1904:

AUSTRIA (Cartier):

A VIE-Bud; A TRI S A Vie-Bud

ENGLAND (Reese):

F Cly-NWG; A SWE & F BAR S F Nwg-Nwy; F Nwg-NWY; F Lon-NTH;  
F KIE & F BAL S FRENCH A Mun-Ber

FRANCE (Columbo):

F TUN S F Wes-Tyn; F Wes-TYN; A VEN S F Tyn-Rom; F Tyn-ROM;  
A PIE S A Ven; A Mun-BER; A BUR-Mun; A PAR-Bur

GERMANY (Madman):

A Gal-BOH

ITALY (Madman):

A TYO S AUSTRIAN A Tri; F NAP-Apu

RUSSIA (Baillie):

A Ber S A Sil-Mun/d/r Pru, Otb; A SIL-Mun; A War-LVN; F RUM H;  
A Nwv H/d/r Fin, Otb; F Ska-DEN; F STPnc S A Nwy

TURKEY (Polley):

A SER-Tri; F ADR S A Ser-Tri; A BUD S A Ser-Tri; A GRE-Apu;  
F ION C A Gre-Apu; F ALB & F AEG S F Ion

1904:

A: Vie ~~Bud~~ TRI

2

even

E: Home Swe ~~Den~~ Bel Hol KIE NWY

8

build 1

F: Home Spa Por Mun Ven Tun ROM BER

10

build 2

G: ~~Vie~~

0

remove 1, out

I: ~~Rom~~ Nap

1

remove 1

R: Home Nwy Ber Rum DEN

6

remove 1

T: Home Bul Ser Gre ~~Tri~~ BUD

7

even

34

Winter, 1904, and SPRING, 1905 will be due with my mail received at home WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5, 1980, and may be conditional on retreats, builds, removals. Lots of changes, but only the Italian position presents any real questions. Please be sure to label one set of orders "all other cases" whenever you submit conditional orders! Press follows:

(No dateline): England, I am sure France will find your letter to Turkey most interesting.

(No dateline): The British Government announces the sale of 4 battleships to Austria in view of her need for a fleet now that she has a coastline again.

79 Nid

The Second Blind Madman Game

Feb 14

MADMAN HELPING ITALIANS THIS TIME OUT. BUT DID IT WORK?

SPRING, 1904: GERMANY (Madman): A SIL-Gal; A VIE S ITALIAN A Ven-Tri

FALL, 1904 will be due with my mail received here THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1980.

There was no press this season.

SOMEONE asked, "Do we get to see what the Madman "Other Events" were?" No. There is no madman player, and only the German player would be entitled to see German "other events". Thus Silesia and Ruhr are as much in the dark for all as is the case with Albania or North Africa. Who TOOK German centers is also up to your guess.

J.M.



A zine published by Jack Frost  
 Carried as a feature by The Brutus Bulletin  
 In this issue: 1979HE

NOW LET'S SEE: TURKEY'S FLEET CON MAKES THE BLACK SEA;  
 RUSSIA'S ARMY WARSAW PARTS THE "RED SEA";  
 AUSTRIA'S ARMY BURGUNDY IS A "YOU DON'T SEE"!

Fall 1907: ENGLAND retreats A Bur-PIC

Winter 1907: TURKEY builds A SMY

Spring 1908:

AUSTRIA (Kader): A Bur-Ruh, dislodged, destroyed; A BOH sup A Gal-Sil;  
 A Gal-SIL; A SER-Rum; A RUM-Sev; A ARM sup A Rum-Sev;  
 F BUL sup Turkish F Con-Bla

ENGLAND (Howe): F Hol-BEL; F ENG sup F Mid; F NAO sup F Mid; F MID holds;  
 A PAR sup A Gas; A GAS sup A Pic-Bur; A RUH sup A Pic-Bur  
 A Pic-BUR

ITALY (McMahon): F NAF-Mid; F SPA sup F Naf-Mid; F WES sup F Naf-Mid;  
 A POR sup F Spa; A MAR-Bur; A PIE-Mar; A TYR sup A Mun;  
 A MUN sup Austrian A Bur-Ruh

RUSSIA (Michalski): F Bla con Austrian A Arm-Sev, dislodged, destroyed;  
A SEV-Rum; A UKR sup A Sev-Rum; A War-GAL; A LVN holds;  
 F Ber-BAL; A Sil-Mun, dislodged, retreat Ber, Pru, War,  
 or disband; F KIE rusts

TURKEY (Osuch): F Con-BLA; A Smy-CON; A ANK sup A Smy-Con

Deadline for Russia's retreat and everyone's Fall 1908 is Tuesday, February 19, 1980 at noon. Russia's F Kiel is reminded that "if (you don't use it, you lose it". The GM apologizes for being so humorous.

COA: Andy McMahon; PSC Box 2167; Little Rock AFB, Arkansas 72076

#### PRESS

F BLA: They also serve who sink with an Austrian army on board.

KIEV: After Marshal Budeany was sacked for failing to take Rumania, he vanished. Apparently he has returned as C in C of Austro-Turkish Naval Operations.

#### ODDS & ENDS

✓ SUBS EXPIRING OR EXPIRED WITH THIS ISSUE: Cartier, Berch, Henthorn; Next issue, Lipscomb, Beamer. (( And remember, players don't need to sub to continue in any game )).

★ SUBSCRIBER NOTICE: With recent subscriber additions, I am now pushing 5 dozen copies. This is too many. Effective at once, those receiving complimentary copies can expect to miss a few, or a lot. Next, the weaker trades will go, as some so-called "trades" produce damn little in-bound for what I send out. As some of these folks may opt to switch to paying status, that will further increase pressure on the weaker trades. Other publishers: I like seeing BE's name in print, etc., but I will also be discouraging new faces, since virtually none of my 'old faces' seem to want to quit the rolls, and I am unwilling to increase my runs any further than this. New trades: sorry, but forget it. You'll have to produce a VOICE OF DOOM or DRAGON & LAMB to get onto my list anymore. I hate to do so, but I seem to have no choice. Sorry. - John

✻ \*\*MERCI, CANADIENS! THANK YOU, CANADIANS\*\* It's good to know that not every government on this continent is led by pussies! J.M. ✻

CAMPAIGN STATEMENT from Bill LaFosse, candidate for President of the US, endorsed by this publication

Shall we all gather at the river, and sing hymns of praise to the Lord, for all his blessings, his endowments, and his creation of these United States, which we are blessed to live in. Unto these United States the Lord bestowed independence, and freedom to pursue happiness. He created our need to follow in his footsteps, and to follow a lead to set an example. To set this example, he created a great office, the office of President of the United States. I believe with all my heart and soul that I have been called by our Lord to fill this lordly office. A miracle, a holy prophecy I claim, I was seated on my porcelain throne just the other night, and images appeared in the toilet water, the images urging me to pursue to the limits of my ability, my urge to fill the sacred office.

I rose, and drank from the sacred waters and plotted out my moves to accomplish this holy task.

Evil, the enemy of all, must be rooted from this great land. And what is the color of evil? Black, my bretheren, is the color of evil. The Lord has spoken. He says that all black must be purged from our lives. He means all. There can be no exceptions, not for the Pittsburgh Steelers, not for the Supremes, all black must be overcome. But the Lord preaches mercy also, so stay those vats of boiling oil, do not fry our unloved black brothers. Instead let us contain them, and gently cover them with white butterfly nets. Hold them not in black iron chains. Bright aluminum leggings that shine and glimmer in our Lord's sunlight are much more to his liking. Pray, my friends, for those unfortunate souls locked in black bodies, for these are the punishers of God, and pray also for the overweight who are suffering through purgatory on this earth, offer Band-aids as each razor tipped dart penetrates their gross obesity.

Keep me in mind on Election Day. Vote for the man with the "big backer".

((More LaFosse excerpted from the latest TORONTO TELEGRAM of his, 12/\$5, 126 Bay Street #24 Trenton, Ontario K8V-1H8))

- I have been flooded with letters by persons wishing that I reveal much more of my platform and intended changes in the upcoming election.

I can appreciate their desires and plan to reveal, in depth, my more far reaching ideas, when ( most likely ) I am elected as president of the United States.

Before I get into the issues, I would like to thank John Michalski and Mike Mills for their support in my ambition. It is unfortunate that the Canadian election came up after I had tossed my hat into the American ring, but I have far too much support to back out now.

I see one of the primary problems in dealing with the varied problems of the American people is that they have so many diverse interests to consider from their state governments. It is one of my plans to combine some states into bigger unions, and to place more federal control on these states. Some of my proposed changes are:

- the combining of the Carolinas and Georgia into one state- Carog-
- the combining of the Dakotas, Nebraska & Iowa - into Dano -
- the union of Virginia & W. Virginia - into Virginia-
- the union of Colorado, Arizona, Utah, New Mexico - into Ucam -

I see some states being utilized for special purposes, their population moved elsewhere:

Delaware would be used as a homeland for those few free blacks we would have to tolerate: professional athletes, diplomats, super intellectuals (both of them) ect. The state would also be used as a military tank and artillery range.

(continued)

The state of Wyoming would be evacuated and used as a nuclear testing ground, a few Indians would be left so we could study the effect of radioactivity on the human body.

The states of Montana and Idaho would completely change (exchange) their population, to prove to the world that when America puts her mind on a project, there is no stopping her.

The state of New Jersey would have her population left intact and the state used as a napalm testing ground.

New York City would be granted status as a private state, closed to outsiders, with no interstate emmigration allowed.

Hawaii would be evacuated and used as a private Governmental retreat.

It is my policy, once elected, to declare the U.S. an empire, with myself emporer. All laws and all decisions I deemed correct would be acted upon at once.

As previously mentioned some internal Governmental changes would be:

1. A resumption of slavery
2. The tattooing of a person's weight on their forehead ( ~~make that~~ maximum allowable weight ), of course all citizens would be oblige to throw darts at obese offenders
3. The supplying of tuning forks to all citizens.

Other changes not yet revealed

1. The legalization of marihuana
2. The resumption of the death penalty for 1st degree murder, sex offenders, and illegal parking.

Another change I feel worth a mention is that I plan to completely re-organize the order of political power. Persons would be appointed by the federal Gov't along the following lines by the emporer.

1. Is the emporer ( it goes without saying )
2. vice-emporer
3. barons
4. dukes
5. earls
6. commissioners
7. prefects

The above are the ranks of Government, in addition to these, there are jobs, the job itself it no judge of political power, just functions to be performed , a lowly man may hold a job, which under the old system would appear to afford him much political power . It is no longer so, some men quite high on the political spectrum may hold jobs, which under the old way of doing things would appear quite menial.

I have some people in mind for some jobs, I have not completed my list of appointments, but I will share with you some positions I have penciled in, in my mind.

John Michalski rank baron-ruler of Oklahoma, Texas and Mexico, (which will be attacked as soon as I am elected.) His job would be Minister of slavery - 4th in line of succession to the throne

Francois Guerrier - rank baron- urinal cleaner at the Attica nigger  
 prison, 5th in line to the throne  
 John Kelley-earl of Klickitat and all adjoining counties, no official  
 job. Just rule in health  
 Mark Berch - commissioner, U.S. ambassador to the Solar System  
 Curt Gibson-earl- U.S. ambassador to the near dead, and head of the  
 committee for Jewish understanding  
 Richard Nixon- vice emporer, 2nd in line to the throne  
 Ronald Reagan- duke- ambassador to the USSR  
 Mike Hohnadel-duke- ruler of Carog  
 Olivia Newton John-commissioner-personal secretary and sex object to the  
 emporer  
 Mike Mills- commissioner of Northern New York state  
 Andy Lischett-duke- ruler of Chicago and Ill & IN  
 Abraham Lincoln-prefect-US ambassador to the dead  
 Ted Kennedy-earl- Minister of bleeding heart affairs  
 Jimmy Carter-duke-Minister of peanuts  
 George Wallace-prefect-Minister of Human Rights  
 John Daly-duke-ruler of the state of New York City  
 Tom Swider-commissioner-ruler of Endwell NY  
 Dan Coleman - baron- ruler of Maryland-adjacent states 9th in line  
 Bernie Oaklyn-commissioner - ruler of Silver Springs  
 Dan Palter- commissioner- ruler of Cedarhurst NY  
 Buddy Tredick-earl-head of the C.I.A.  
 Mohammed Ali-prefect- ruler of Delaware

These are just some of the positions I have in mind, Bare in mind that  
 a state ruler has final word over any other local jurisdiction within  
 his overall control, no matter the overall political ranking of the  
 local and state ruler. Ex. The prefect of Florida would have final say  
 over the wishes of the Baron of Miami, even if the Baron of Miami was  
 3rd in line to the throne

I hope this outline helps clarify some of my political aspirations.  
 Spelling is all in the mind.

X X X X

Hm ! After re-Reading the above, my Campaign organizers in charge of  
 Comedy and Spelling have been admonished.

Speaking of spelling, I have a few comments to make, I went to school  
 for 14 years, after grade 8 there was no effort made to teach it at all.  
 What you read above is a product of such an education.  
 The real bitch is sentence structuring. Under this printing format if  
 I re-read a sentence and decide it should have been constructed a  
 different way, I'm sort of stuck, to erase an entire line with correc-  
 tion fluid makes things look awful. One final problem I face in my  
 "English" battle is that I regularly work on three typewriters, with  
 each one having subtle key differences, I hope this explains some of  
 the printed shortcomings.

Hey, you,

You may call VOD VD if you wish so long as I can call BB the Bruxus Bulletin. #55/56 arrived today, so of course it's high time to get in my reaction to the best zine around.

End of the Tretick matter, indeed. Although I heartily support the letter that Berch circulated, I for one am quite dubious as to whether it will accomplish its primary goal of straightening the man out. Unfortunately, I think we're going to be battling Tretick for years to come.

So the NYC gang is bugging Lee Kendter now. I say more power to Lee. I presume he isn't made of money, and I have every intention of donating my buck to the guy. Does anybody really think Lee is making a PROFIT on that measly dollar he charges?

Speaking of Greg Costikyan - ah, so he does still exist. I've cancelled my trade because he's sent me nothing since October. Just what I like, a nice reliable pubber who will let you know that he doesn't want to trade by merely failing to mail you his zine! 'Taint my loss, anyhow.

According to my master Dippy file, Art Lowe's address is (and I'm not kidding) Art Lowe, Villa Cavas, Via Praloran 138, Limana, Belluno, 32100, Italy.

Personally, I disagree with you on codewords, though at least I do see your point. However, you're right about making your rules stand unless the dissenting vote is unanimous. How would Peter Fuchs like it if he signed up for a two-week game only to have four of the players vote it into a five-weeker? When a player signs up for a game, he has a right to expect that he will be playing under the rules in effect when he joined.

I would love to have copies of BB. Specifically, any pre-#38's that anybody wishes to get rid of. We agree about this Vol 2, #15 horseshit. It's more confusing than its worth. But Ron Brown is indeed on issue #15 overall. 70¢ per issue of D&L? Gawd! I thought 45¢ was too high. I think Steve has just decided to charge what it costs him to produce it; possibly the first pubber in the hobby to adopt that attitude. But at that price, my sub will just expire. And I'll bet he loses several other folks as well.

You are STILL being to harsh on Claw and Fang. If you are as fortunate as I was and get the Fangmaster himself for a GM, you are in for as well-run a game as any in the hobby. My C&F game was the first to start, and it's the only game I'm in that has yet to see a GMing error. (Yes, that does include 79Iid.) I agree concerning some of the guest GMed games there, but I will vouch for the excellence of Horton himself as a GM. Furthermore, I don't experience those long lapses you keep brining up.

It is my understanding that Revenge has folded, but by no means am I sure.

Re your apology to Boardman. Well done, and I guess necessary, but I hope you'll rethink your position on printing anything. I for one want you too. (Damn, that's the second time this letter that I've mixed up 'to' and 'too'). Yours is really the only zine where the accusations fly hot and heavy. While much of the hobby hates that stuff, some of us, myself included, like it a lot. I don't even object if it gets directed toward me, thus:

BRUX LINSEY EATS DIARRHEA!

Anyway, your zine is perfect for those of us who DO want to read such nonsense. Why conform to all the blander ones just because J.B. says so?

(next page, please)

I'm still upset about the declining toilet population in BB lately.

BRUCKS, continued

Besides, you're wrong in stating that you can't recall anyone criticizing the way he runs his games. I'm not saying now whether I consider the criticism valid or not, but I'll bet you haven't forgotten Rod Walker's blast at the way he handled an all-novice game.

The second paragraph of Curt's letter shows the world that he is about as conceited as any human can be. When I read thru a Gibby letter, I confess to being thoroughly entertained and amused, but his lack of brains also is usually readily apparent. O.K., Curt, the ball's in your court!

John Kelley takes off his pants and shits in public? Ah, that I've got to see! Seriously, though, he must be a disgusting little creature. Only a baboon would do that. HEY EVERYONE, JOHN KELLEY IS A BABOON!

Of course you're correct in your opinion that queers and perverts ought to be in 'uniforms other than that of a policeman'. Fact is, though, that possibly 97-98% of homosexuals are neither queers nor perverts, but rather normal and healthy humans like yourself.

Mark asked how is Tony Watson. I can't really say, except that he's another trader who is lucky to still be trading. I got one issue in October, and his big Christmas issue in January, and nothing since. I hope for the hobby's sake that he publishes more often and is just forgetting me. But I'm sure as hell losing on the deal.

Thanx 4 publishing the Novice Packet info. And also for twice mentioning the Need-a-Game list and NAVB. That way, nobody'll miss it. I plan to vote for Bill LaFosse next November, by the way.

Ociw fi q, tooe r fiwm 3ofwpviowj wpvio j jwpvpwpp ei oo widj, nitnie wi-  
sdoe miewg9 eer i down, wiw.

John Kelley asked (at least I believe it was John) what had happened to John Lipscomb. I can answer that. After waiting patiently for several months for AG #3, I called John. In a subsequent letter, he explained that he was having trouble filling his zine and thus mailing the rag in bundles less frequently, tho the players were still receiving results regularly. This is acceptable, but J.L. might have had the decency to so inform his subbers. I really thought I'd been ripped off.....

I'm with Randolph Smyth concerning conditionals upon who is playing a given position. The reason is that the two people may have entirely different diplomatic standpoints; you may be facing an enemy in the original player but a willing ally in the potential standby. And remember, the orders for the country in question ARE conditional upon who is playing. So why shouldn't another players' orders be too? But Randolph took your statement a bit too seriously. You certainly didn't leave us with the impression that he is an incompetant GM, as he seems to think.

I'll help you reply by typing the double opening parentheses:

(( ))

((That mght type just won't cut it, so I'll start my answer over. So, what GMing error was there in 79Iid? It seems to me that even if there WAS one, no one would know about it but me until the game is over...))

The orders for the country in question ARE indeed "conditional on who is playing" but you overlook that the decision as to who is playing is determined only by the passing of the deadline. Something of a technicality, true, but that's how I see it.

The brouhaha over Lee and the \$1 has blown over; Lee is making it voluntary, I understand. Just as well, for the last thing he needs is more headaches. The latest WHY ME arrived today, the 13th, and claims an EVERYTHING will be out in 2 weeks)

J.M.

Dick Martin, publisher of Retaliation, eats anchovies dipped in caterpillar blood.

KONRAD BAUMEISTER (EGGNOG)

11416 Parkview Lane, Hales Corners, WI 53130  
February 14, 1980

Was very impressed by Brutus Bulletin #55-56. What was best about it was, of course, the change in policy. The "print everything" policy was not getting you anywhere, I feel, since it damaged your own integrity almost as much as it did that of John Boardman and others. Some of yhat stuff does reflect back on the guy that prints it, too. In any case, ghe over-all positive attitude of this last double-issue saved the day for your 'zine and my subscription. Perhaps some comments are in order. (Remember that whenever I comment it's bound to be negative because just not commenting is usually considered positive; if everything's fine, why say anything else?)

Lee Kendter will do a great job with the numbers, I feel. I wasn't as impressed with the job the Agostas did as much of the rest of the hobby was, I'm afraid. While Bernie kept on numbering games every so often, she only produced one issue of Everything...without which the numbers are pretty worthless. Lee has assured me that his first issue is soon to come out, and I know that he's been working a great deal on the stuff Bernie gave him. I'm sure he'll be the best we've had since Doug Beyerlein...and may last almost as long...it's a hell of a tough job. (It's always easy to criticize until you try to do better yourself.)

Actually, I don't have six brothers...I have seven. However, they are rapidly fanning out across this country of ours, with the eldest just having moved to Chicago, and others currently living in places such as Wahington. Of course, many are now married (been a lot of that lately), and are rapidly losing interest in Diplomacy. It's been a long time since I've had more than two of them help me put out EGGNOG, that's for sure! (They have this habit of disappearing and not answering the phone...) I only have one brother younger than me, and he's getting into the game a bit more these days...

As for Curtis Gibson vs. half of the Diplomacy community (give him time, give him time...), I guess that Kelley and others are catching on to what I've been saying for years...that having Gibson subscribe to your 'zine is a sure-fire way of having some of the games ruined by his interference. Even you, John, run that risk; Gibby himself admits that the games in your 'zine are what he looks forward to the most. When you consider it carefully, or even not so carefully, the only reason for that is that he would want to involve himself in them. Nobody else stares at your games just for the hell of it, and pays his subscription price for it!! And, as Bob Sergeant said in the letter column of my latest EGGNOG, there is more cause for kicking Gibson out of the hobby than Tretick...Tretick can only screw the games he himself is involved in, while Gibson can foul up any given game he sees in a 'zine. It's something to think about....

Thanks for the kind review of EGGNOG in 'zines received. I try. I have not seen anything from Marley in some months now, so I don't know what's what with him. I assume that I'll hear from him soon, but who knows?

I am now, as I have always been, of the opinion of Randolph Smyth regarding making orders conditional upon whom you have been negotiating with. What is the point of making plans with a standby when you can't use them until one season after they're useful? Remember when I made such orders in an old Brutus Bulletin game? Remember the stink you made when you wrote me back about it?

You didn't answer Mills' question about "worn out cliches." I was wondering about that too.

As for automobiles, I have mentioned what I like to drive in past EGGNOGs; that Firebird. That was in the days when even American cars were made to last (1967) -- mine is still with it, though I've done a good deal of repairing/replacing/pampering. Still, it's parked outside during the

Winter, and you know what kind of winter we have here in Wisconsin! It's also got more miles on it than you'll ever get onto your T-bird, I'll wager. I drive it every day for more than 70 miles/day (35 miles one way, 35 back, with an occasional drive out of my way to fulfill my quota of feminine company for each day), and get the worst gas mileage in the city; somewhere around 11 on the highway. I wouldn't have it any other way. But, for all of the stuff I have on it, 11 mpg is good. What do you have on your T-bird to match that? And the mileage we get is comparable; only slightly better for you, but you don't even drive as much.

Part of the problem is that we are going in fifty different directions when it comes to energy. For example, the environmentalists were instrumental in pushing for unleaded gas and for exhaust control and all that shit (I'm not an environmentalist!). Of course, every gadget one puts on hurts the mileage another 10%. Suddenly gas is a rare commodity; but do the environmentalists ease off! NOOO! They only get stricter. Densa... and yet characteristic of Carter's administration.

In any case, American cars are generally pieces of shit on the road these days. They should come with blank recall notices to save time and postage. We bought a brand new Olds Starfire (same as a Monza or other similar mad-else; the industry isn't getting any more original at this stage of the game last year, and have had miserable experiences with it. Not only that, I ended up chewing out a service attendant who spoke behind my back (but in front of my mother's) about the teenage son driving the thing (I don't even touch it -- Uli does). We're selling the heap this year with 14,000 miles on it (low for us for one year) and are going to buy an import -- anything foreign. BMWs and Mercedes and the like are the best in my opinion, arguments to the contrary notwithstanding. You don't have to take care of them, they get better mileage (mostly), are faster (in most cases), are infinitely more dependable. Our newest BMW, a 530i, has proven cheaper to maintain than that above-mentioned Oldsmobile, for insatnce...and the 530i is a 1976 car!! (50,000 miles on it to date,) My father has his eye on a Datsun 280 ZX, which will drive circles around your T-bird speed-wise, is only marginally more expensive, and gets twice your mileage.

So much for that. Now you can print another four pages of Curtis Gibson's material. Try that stuff sent to John Boardman about "astromerology," or something like that. John tells me that Gibson offered to do a column for Graustark on it, and actually wanted to get paid for it, too Good for a laugh, if nothing else!

Best,

Konrad Baumeister, Convicted Criminal of the Gibsonian Justice -- I'm German

((Boardman wrote about that too, saying something about sending it on to Tretick, since Gibson-Tretick deserved each other, or something to that effect....

My T-bird (77) has over 48,000 miles on it now, which includes only one trip to the distant north (Milwaukee). So far its hanging together well, better than any other US car I've ever owned. And they've all been US cars. Things will have to be very bad before I opt to import German or Japanese unemployment by buying their cars, altho a case can be made for it.

It is an indication of how badly the Numbers have been handled that Bernie's work did look so good by comparison. However, when it got to be too much, she did hand it off pretty fast, which is a lot better than White's notorious tenure, e.g.

My games are so fast paced that Gibson does and has denounced them, but between the speed and the fact that they really all run outside the zine, there's no danger. Also, I don't think Curtis..uh..unique writing style will scare people into the closet. If he writes a letter saying XX is good, YY a bastard, I'm sure most people will take it for what it's worth. I don't think a game can be ruined by such outside commentary as Curtis makes; I get LOTS of strange mail, and it doesn't faze me.))

J.M.



I enjoyed the 79H comments in # 4. The endgame comments are in my opinion a good measure of the "quality" of a game, and on that basis, BB games are in very good shape.

No, I ~~usually~~ usually skip your political material, but I saw your please-read-this-last paragraph, so I read it --- the whole thing, even.

Look, I consider myself to be fairly intelligent, and well informed in current affairs. The OPEC price we are being charged is a monopoly price, as opposed to a free market price. I don't want to get into a long discussion of how this came about. Suffice it to say that the sellers formed a cartel, and the buyers did not form a countercartel. Any experienced dippy player knows that when a cartel forms on the board, you either form one of your own to resist, or you submit. I also know that these prices set by OPEC have done great damage to this country. Tens of billions of dollars every year which ought to be going to raising our living standard and solving our problems are instead sent to Libya (who sends the \$\$\$ to the PLO) or to Saudi Arabia, which is building a colossal industrial complex in Arabia, or to Kuwait to sit in their bank accounts. The dollar has been seriously weakened by this trade imbalance. A lot of people, especially those on fixed incomes are really being squeezed, many thousands of jobs have been lost, etc. There are plans to extract oil from rock which will divert water needed from agriculture. Technology for this will be in a lot better shape in 15 years, but we must now go with the primitive processes that we now have. I am aware that there are some advantages, but they pale. Our allies, more dependent on imported oil, are in worse shape. This dependence limits their political maneuverability, and limits the kind of support they can give us for, e.g. Israel and against Iran. Worst off are the third world countries. They just cannot afford the extra billions of dollars, so the living standards decline. This produces domestic unrest, which is as you know just what local left-wing revolutionaries need --- and indeed require. Money that ought to be spent on US manufactured products and grain instead goes to the OPEC coffers because of these drastically increased rates. All this I understand.

Now, along comes your Craig Karpel. He concludes from the fact that Saudi Arabia has donated one (1) solar system to a school in Reston Va that the Saudi's are planning a fiendish conspiracy against the US by means of keeping the oil prices lower than they would otherwise be! To the extent that this project has been able to show the present feasibility of solar, it encourages solar in this country, thus cutting demand for Saudi oil. Perhaps you understand better why I normally do not bother with the political crap you put into BB.

Personally I am very much in favor of codewords. Where is it written that orders can't be dependent on "current events"? You can't make it contingent on specific orders of the same season, but code words are not legal orders.

Yes, John, there will be no winners in any nuclear war. It always amuses me when anti-communists are so fast to criticize the USSR as being wrong in everything --- except when they agree with the Russian way of doing things, in which case, the Russians suddenly become experts. If the Russians want to squander billions on bomb shelters that will allow their citizenry to die of radiation poisoning rather than blast, fine, but don't go using that as an argument that we should make the same stupid mistake.

((Ah, of course you must be right, Mark. After all, the Russians ARE incapable of making clothes with zippers, or a ball point pen that writes, so how foolish it is of we right

Response to Berch

wingers to even think that those Russian missiles might really work. Surely those tanks won't be able to move or their ships sail or their soldiers fight, so why squander billions to try and match them when we can squander billions on military payrolls instead of hardware, or on more people to administer social programs and guide us through our daily lives? I don't find it "amusing" myself, though.

You have completely misread Karpel. His statement did not seem to say to me that he thought the OPEC folks would LOWER their prices because of the solar panels they gave to the Reston school; rather, their surface benevolence had a more concrete core, in that they wanted to know what solar costs/benefits in a US climactic setting would be. That is valuable background information for anyone to have, we as well as they, but especially they in their capacity as future oil price setters. Nice to know how far you can push ON before even silly stuff like solar becomes practical, wouldn't you think? My note was to draw attention to the iron lining of that silver cloud of Saudi charity. Also, you misread "concurrent events" as "current events". That will clear up the dippy ambiguity.)) J.M.

TONY WATSON (RURITANIA)

1481 S Palm #207 Las Vegas NV 89104

In answer to some stuff appearing in BB #55-56:

1. Yes, I would have answered Berch's questions about ALIEN if I had known who was asking. (Sort of a dumb presumption on your part that I would not). I apparently don't relish vindictiveness as Mark seems to.
2. The only person who makes any noise about the monthly deadlines in RURØ being too long is yourself. I more often get complaints that the deadlines are too short. Apparently I get a different breed of player than in your 10 day games. Separations of seasons are invariably asked when I ask for combined seasons (as in FG). Who am I to impose short deadlines, or force combined seasons on players who don't seem to want either?
3. I disagree with your view of THE MARTIAN CHRONICLES presentation on TV. Remarkably faithful to the books, considering it was a TV production. You have to bear in mind that Bradbury's book originally appeared in 1950.. RURØ will probably have more on the subject.

((I will look forward to it. Regarding FG, I think it is an excellent case for showing why separations should not be granted on the basis of some lazy player's request when it clearly is more a matter of them not giving a shit enough to think about what might be happening in the game, than due to any heavy weight of diplomatic efforts going on. My own publishing policy is primarily an outgrowth of my own dissatisfaction with the many erroneous policies permitted or pursued in this hobby, and these endless delays are probably the biggest problem. Your response (the majority response) is to grant the delays and say "well, I tried"; my response is to kick 'em in the ass and say "get on the stick or drop out, dummy" which also has its following. Generally, those who care about what they're doing will follow the path BB permits them I think, as the low NMRs and such would seem to indicate.

Thanks for writing.)) J.M.

JACK BRAWNER (FLYING DUTCHMAN)

2745 58 Ave S #260, St Petersburg FL 337

The following are haphazard impressions of BB typed directly after its reading by myself. I thought it would be high time I contributed.

"Another BB? God, how does he do it? Another thick one too. Kee-rist!" "Wonder how long it will be before France falls and Turkey stabs Austria to win 79CK--or if he'll settle for the draw" "The press in BB has got to be the lowest quality press ever". "I'm sure looking forward to seeing the end of that first (and second, for that matter, but esp. the first) blind madman game. I've got to try a blind game one of these days.. I'd have a total blast". "Who's cutting down the Tampa Bay Bucs? Lemme at 'em!!!" "My zine receives less comment than any of the others... Damn!! John, I know you don't think I have enough filler, but can't you find ANYTHING to say about FD? What were your impressions of the content of the last issue? I'm making a real effort to keep FD from becoming a warehouse-- and I think I'm doing a pretty good job, not that I'll ever be in your class. Also, you've got to realize that new pubbers aren't going to have their readers contributing as much

Brawner, cont'd

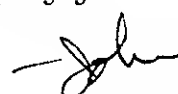
as the more established ones. And I'm not a prolific writer." "I haven't heard from ASSORTED GARBAGE since the first issue.. and yet I see that you're trading with it? I have repeatedly warned Lipsoomb that I'd better see some material. My opinion is that J.L. is a 14-yr-old kid who really, really means to get the next issue out this weekend, but I am kind of pissed that he's on the need-a-game list." "I ENJOY READING THE THE GIBSON STUFF! I really should write him one of these days and set up a correspondence--but I'm such a poor writer when I don't have a deadline, it's pathetic. "What a fantastic letter column. If I had access to a printer, or had more money, I'd try to get a column like that going. But I don't have either one, and have to pay instead to get mine printed, so I'm out of luck." "EVERYTHING is out, eh? Funny, I never seem to get anything. I never get DIPLOMACY WORLD, or EVERYTHING, or Bill LaFosse's PEERLESS, or the fake VOLKERWANDERUNG, or any of the Ozog flyers...it doesn't do wonders for one's pride. And Lee Kendter is a player in my zine, too. So is Bill LaFosse, for that matter. "It's good to see a die-hard conservative, John, defending the ideals of conservatism and attacking the change-for-the-sake-of-change liberals. My age group has too few true conservatives, eh? "Sorry for all the hardship I've caused you by changing my address so often of late. I'm hopefully settled now." Notice how many of the Congressmen caught taking bribes were Democrats? I sort of missed your taxes at work" I really enjoy that little piece.

( ((It can only appear when I get an issue of CONSERVATIVE DIGEST, and CD is a very small scale, hand to mouth operation. For some reason, big business feeds the hands that kill it, rather than those that would be more favorable to it. "Taxes" / "Bureaucratic Blunders" is about the only reason I bother to subscribe. Actually, I wouldn't describe myself as a conservative, but more as a reactionary. Conservatives are too moderate for me. Sadly, the real right-wing activists are pseudo-religious lunatics, and Hitler left the rightist pragmatists with an evil aura worse than the right wing ascribes to its leftist core of opponents (who are presumably led by the Devil himself), so I'm pretty much left with no where to stand. Johnny Carson once described Reagan as being "just a little to the right of Darth Vader" which was inappropriate for Ronnie, but not so for me.

Did I say I got an EVERYTHING? I know I've written hoping to see another generated soon, say in the next couple of three months, but I haven't seen one in a long time. Maybe I meant DIPLOMACY WORLD which HAS just appeared again, and called it EVERYTHING by mistake. Gibson does provide a lot of spectator interest, but the good letter I wanted to run this time concerning the tenement he lives in, etc., I cannot now find, while the letters I do have concern largely game feuds which have little interest outside the players themselves. I get lots of copies of letters he has going to others, so if you get in their, perhaps he'll be glad to add you to his mailing list to keep abreast of his battles.

Actually, I still kind of think of myself as a new publisher, but I guess that I'm now an established pillar, what with close to 5 dozen issues behind me, and this being a hobby where few pubbers ever reach 50. My letter column is greatly aided by my ability to reproduce almost anything sent (your letter was too faint though), but the main thing is to get in there and SAY things that are more than just the bland palaver that most of life is filled with, and stand on it. This makes you "controversial" which is a bad thing to many people, but then, "many people" are mindless assholes, so who cares about them? I'm different, so I don't mind saying things backing executions or massive government cutbacks or hard-lining homos and the like. Just because "they" are in the massive majority and are manipulated like clay by the liberals who run this country does not mean that one needs to cater to their style. By being an individual, you stand out from the many, and draw commentary. Some will agree, a lot will throw mud, but if you print it all, EACH side will create a response, and presto, there's your active letter column!

I'm sorry for the short shrift that FLYING DUTCHMAN got in ZINES RECEIVED. Looking back, it seems that I must have got a call or something and never finished that piece when I resumed. It seems to cut off in mid sentence. I'll try to plug you later



Response to Bramer, conclusion

later. The madman games ARE a blast, but more so for me as GM than even for the players (none of whom are complaining). Everyone else gets to enjoy the unfolding comedy at game's end; I get to see it as it unfolds! Try running one, or encourage Bob Arnett to start one as I'm hoping he will.

ASSORTED GARBAGE has definitely been a long time in coming; did I remember to list it in Zines Not Received, I wonder? Anyhow, John writes me that his games are running, and it's just a matter of putting together formal issues per se. Traders tend to get the short end of the stick in a deal like that, but the players are being handled right, and it's just a matter of we traders working out some deal or dropping the trade. His paying customers are being fairly handled though, I'm told. JJ

BOB ALBRECHT (KOBOLD) subzine to The Beholder so far

2005 N 23 St #2  
Lethbridge Alberta T1H 1S5 J.M.

...I think that codewords (as discussed in #54) are detrimental to the game and make it too complex. I can see situations involving thousands of variations (e.g., 7 people send in 4 codewords each, 4<sup>7</sup> variations!).

My zine, KOBOLD, will be going full sized this summer, or maybe even this February! Are you interested in a) trading/subbing b) a game, or c) a plug? If you are, let me know. I have signed up for my last semester at Winston Churchill, so by this summer I will be a HS Grad. Say hi to Claudine.

((She's in the hospital with back trouble just now, but at least her office machine is here, allowing me to do some real typing on this Selectric (notice the two different type balls to spruce up my responses vs text, etc). If you want to trade, you'd best get into business fast: I have room for about 1 or 2 more folks, trades or subs, and then I will have to cut it off. No one seems to be letting their sub lapse, and new people keep sending me money all the time. I'm running almost 5 dozen copies, which is 20% higher than I'd like, but no end in sight. I don't want to cut the good old established trades, I don't want to discourage the new faces (plus their products are often interesting), and I'd really hate to say, "sorry, kid, keep your money, I don't want you to buy my zine"--except to Tretick, that is--but I just can't and won't kill myself or my zine by trying to put out 5, 6, or more dozen issues. I'm sure you'll understand when you start turning them out yourself. I must pass on the game; I am in too many already, thanks. I'll be glad to review K here when you start though.)) J.M.

JOHN KELLEY (The BEHOLDER)  
(excerpts)

Box 35, Klickitat, WA 9862B

We oughta join that game in ITT, cream "Bernie", then turn upon each other. It'd be fair to the other players, and lotsa fun.

Of course Sacks believes Tretick isn't Oaklyn. He's from New York; need I say more? Was talking to Mark Berch the other night. Seems he's got a letter coming in saying something to the effect of "John Kelley shits in public...". Well, 'public' is defined in my Webster's as meaning 'open or visible by most or all people..' in this context. That accusation would only be valid if I were to do it on the sidewalk or otherwise in view of the general public. In fact, since rest areas generally have more than one person in them at any one time, you also shit in public, and so does anyone else who stops to use the facilities at a rest area. You don't have a leg to stand on in this one, Mark. Shove that in your test tubes and erlenmeyer flasks and smoke it.

It was the use of the word 'hosebag' that I was apologizing for. I still say she's birdbrained. I do not know if it was in fact correct, but it's her business, not mine.

Come, come now, John: of course we would respond to a nuclear war. And I watched a scenario for a possible US-USSR nuclear war situation on 20-20 quite a while back. While they, with their 257 million, would come out marginally better, there would be no USSR or USA left. Oh, there would be survivors, sure, but no all-encompassing governments. Klickitat would be untouched.

Kelley, conclusion

I guess I have begun to disagree with you about Carter lately. I'm beginning to see that he has his good points, and besides, who else is there to vote for? Kennedy's a liberal; Conally's a thief; Reagan might be OK. Even if he is a Democrat, I like Carter.

*((Did you know that Hitler got along very well with small children? The Goebbels children affectionately called him "Onkel Alf". I'm sure he had some good points... somewhere. Even if he was a National Socialist... Ignore the camps, look at the autobahns he built. Right. I too looked at him at first and thought, here's someone from outside the Washington establishment, a former naval officer who commanded a nuclear submarine, a southerner--sounded good. I ignored all that born-again bullshit, etc. Guessed wrong again. Hell, Rosalynn would make a better President than this barefoot backwoods boy she has puffed up into a President. Rosalynn might fight; Jimmy would throw in the sponge. 20-20 may well have had a good piece about how we would destroy the USSR, etc.; the Red Army had an excellent plan for moving in Poland if a war with the Fascists ever broke out. Good scenario. The new commander arrived in Smolensk at the end of June 1941 from the Far East and asked his staff "Have our troops taken Warsaw yet?" He got a rude response, I suspect!))*

*J.M.*

David D. Perlmutter

Latches Ln. Apt #608  
Merion, PA 19066

Dear John,

Let me give you and your readers a lesson in the fine art of making people mad at you. I made, through an incredible series of blunders in the Ambrose Burnside tradition, a very kind soul feel like I was thirsting for his blood.

My crimes....

- 1) I reviewed his zine for Claw&Fang and gave it a very moderate rating.
- 2) I forgot to sub to his zine.
- 3) When I did sub, I sent him a cancelled stamp for a sample of his other zine (a variant publication)
- 4) I incorrectly sounded like I was in agreement with his worst enemy, the one and only Gibby.
- 5) I admitted to him that a fault in my own character was a slight prejudice I have for Germans. He is of German descent.
- 6) I can't think of a sixth but there must be one.

The man who I did these stunningly bad attempts at introduction is one the most respected and perhaps the most tolerant persons in the hobby today. I for one would like to state in public that I apologize if in any way I have made publishing his zine any less fun than it should be. However dear Konrad, if I ever get France and your England, well heh, heh, heh.... POW! (Joke)

Humbly (misspelled?)

HINT: His initials are K.B, he  
pubs Eagles

David D. Perlmutter

*David D. Perlmutter*

IT'S DIFFICULT TO  
SOAR WITH EAGLES  
WHEN YOU  
WORK WITH  
TURKEYS